## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

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Filed: Herewith

Title: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS

August 7, 2001

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Please amend this application: Please amend this application as follows: At the top of the first page, just under the title, insert  $\boxtimes$ -- This application is the National Phase of International Application PCT/JP01/00081 filed January 11, 2001 which designated the U.S. and that International Application \_] was was not published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.--Respectfully submitted, PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP/ Intellectual Property Group Attorney: Dal S. lazar Reg. No: 28872 Tel. No.: (703) 905-2126 Fax No.: (703) 905-2400

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